

# CIA said to hire Mafia 'hit man' to kill Castro

From Wire Services

Washington—Two former key aides to the late Robert F. Kennedy say that he told them in 1967 that agents of the Central Intelligence Agency had contracted with the Mafia in an aborted plot to assassinate Premier Fidel Castro of Cuba before the Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961.

several unsuccessful attempts to kill Castro, both before and shortly after the CIA-planned Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961. Mr. Figueres responded: "Iazine quoted its source as saying: 'The guy got jittery and just tossed the bomb out of the window.'" Mr. Figueres stepped down as president of Costa Rica May 8.

Mr. Walinsky, now a lawyer in private practice in New York, said that Mr. Kennedy disclosed that he had received "assurances in writing" from the CIA that the attempted assassination of Mr. Castro had been aborted. Those assurances came after Mr. Kennedy discussed the issue with high officials of the agency. Mr. Walinsky recalled the then-senator saying: "He told us that he had dis-

A high official of the CIA, informed of the Walinsky-Edelman account, said the agency would have "no comment."

Besides Premier Castro, Rafael Trujillo of the Dominican Republic and Francois Duvalier of Haiti were targets of CIA assassination attempts. Time magazine reported.

The magazine said that the CIA used "expert hired-gun help of U.S. Mafia figures in

In the case of Mr. Trujillo, the late dictator of the Dominican Republic, the CIA thought he was "getting too friendly with the Communists." Time magazine reported. But the rebels were stopped at the border by Dominican troops when they moved to attack Haiti. A lone pilot flew on, however, and dropped a single bomb over the palace of Francois Duvalier, but failed to hit Castro," Mr. Walinsky said.

The CIA "backed the successful drive to overthrow Trujillo," who died in a hail of assassins' bullets in 1963, Time said.

In a television interview aired in Mexico yesterday, former Costa Rican President Jose Figueres said he aided the CIA in an attempt to overthrow Mr. Trujillo, but he would not elaborate.

Asked specifically if he had anything to do with Mr. Trujillo's assassination in 1961,

Kennedy, Robert F.

Walinsky, Adam

Edelman, Peter B.

Figueres, Jose